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Items 12, 44, 54, 73, 74, 108, 109, 119 and 120 of the provisional agenda*

Prevention of armed conflict

Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations

Sustainable development

Human rights questions

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

International drug control

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

United Nations reform: measures and proposals

Strengthening of the United Nations system

Letter dated 6 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As the Permanent Representative of the country presiding over the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States, I have the honour to transmit the text of the Statement of 26 August 2005 by the Heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations (annexed hereto).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 12, 44, 54, 73, 74, 108, 109, 119 and 120 of the provisional agenda for the sixtieth session.

(*Signed*) Andrey **Denisov**

* A/60/150.

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Annex to the letter dated 6 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations

On the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the Heads of State of the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) recall with special pride the involvement of their peoples in the decisive event of the last century — the creation of the world organization, whose founders included States now in the CIS.

The birth of the United Nations coincided with the victory in the Second World War and was a key factor in the formation of the contemporary international order. With the passage of time, the Organization has become truly universal, as regards both its membership and the items on its agenda. This gives the United Nations indisputable legitimacy in the issues affecting international life and particularly the maintenance of peace and security, affirmation of the rule of law, human rights protection and observance, economic cooperation and humanitarian questions.

During its lifetime, the United Nations has made a significant contribution to the collapse of the colonial system, the emergence of new independent States, the abolition of apartheid, the settlement of international and domestic conflicts and the observance of human rights. Today, the United Nations continues to play a key role by performing its basic task — the maintenance of international peace and security.

The globalization processes occurring in the world and the new challenges and threats created by them, primarily terrorism and drug trafficking, urgently require that the United Nations adapt to new realities and that a comprehensive strategy and programme of action be formulated under the auspices of the Organization. If the Organization is to be equal to the task of serving as a centre for the coordination of international efforts, Member States must display the necessary political will and mobilize adequate resources and support.

Particular urgency has been acquired by questions concerning the improvement of the structure of the United Nations, which include rationalizing its principal organs, enhancing their effectiveness and transparency and coordinating decision-making. The main criterion for United Nations reform must be broad agreement among Member States.

In this context, the 2005 Summit in New York in September and the sixtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly must promote the adoption of decisions demonstrating our common attachment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, their universal character and their value for the development of the world community in the twenty-first century, and must also promote the transformation of the Organization so that it can play a greater role in today's world.

Kazan, 26 August 2005